

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Masahi Yokomori et al.

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: NC DATA MANAGEMENT  
APPARATUS AND METHOD

Patent Examiner: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

March 19, 2004

Irvine, California 92614

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified application, please enter the following.